

The SUBURBAN and COUNTRY HOME FLOWERS, FRUITS and VEGETABLES

EDITED by EDWARD C. VICK

The Popular, Fragrant White Freesias, Now Supplemented
With Flowers of Pink, Yellow and Purple

—Peony Exhibition

Freeia bulbs must be planted in the late summer or early autumn to get satisfactory flowering.

Bulbs that are held until winter will, from external appearances, be unchanged, but on breaking the bulbs open instead of one large bulb a shrunken old bulb will be disclosed with a cluster of little bulbs. Not being planted at the proper time the bulb makes an effort at reproduction. The little bulbs grown on will make flowering bulbs in a season or two. Freeias may now be had in various

colors in addition to the white, yellow and shades of pink and blue will be offered the coming season. They are a new race of freeias from Japan.

Freeias are easy subjects to grow; a six inch pot will accommodate ten or twelve bulbs of the popular refracta alba. Six or eight bulbs of the new varieties will be sufficient for a pot of this size.

Plant the bulbs an inch deep in a mixture of good, rich potting soil mixed with about one-quarter the quantity of sharp sand. Pot the first lot early in August and other lots a week apart until the first to the middle of September for a succession of bloom. Water as soon as the bulbs are potted, after which scarcely any water will be needed until the growth is about three inches high, when the plants must be regularly watered.

Keep the pots in the lightest possible place and give no water until until fires are needed in the house in the late autumn, and then keep the freeias where the temperature will not go over 60 degrees. They dislike a high temperature when growing. When resting season comes place the pots in the summer sun where they will dry and rest without further attention and may be repotted again in August.

The finest freeias I have seen were planted early and the pots set away on a bench of a greenhouse where they were forgotten. It was a cool house that had only heat enough to keep out frost and many times the thermometer fell very close to 32 at night. More than once when looking in in the morning after a sudden change in the weather at night the mark of a freeze was expected to show, but did not. Finally, the strong odor of the freeias and the white flowers attracted attention and behold the flowers were as fine as the most careful coddling could possibly have produced.

PEONY EXHIBITION.

T. A. Havemeyer, president of the New York Horticultural Society, announces an exhibition of peonies to be held at the American Museum of Natural History, Columbus Avenue and Seventy-seventh street, next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 11, 12 and 13, from 1 to 5 P. M.

Large bunches of the newest and best peonies in vases will be shown. Mr. Havemeyer is making a great effort to have a large display.

WANDERING JEW.

In England wandering Jew, also called mother of thousands; is what is known botanically as *Saxifraga sarmatensis*. In this country the same plant is called *Saxifraga* and also *strawberry geranium*. It is not quite hardy in the North. It is an excellent plant for window culture, either in a shady or sunny situation. The leaves are rounded or kidney shaped, purple on the lower side and green above, relieved with gray veins. It produces a tall, branching flower spike and runners similar to those of

strawberry plants, with slender red stems, having numerous tiny plantlets with good sized leaves.

The culture of *Saxifraga sarmatensis* is simple. The plants require only good potting soil with which a sprinkling of sand had been well mixed. Propagation is by means of the plantlets growing from the runners.

In America what is ordinary called wandering Jew is *Tradescantia*. *Tradescantia virginica* grows wild from New York west and north. The flowers are blue, but there are garden varieties with purple and white flowers. The way this plant multi-

plies and entirely disappears before many years have passed. This, too, in the face of the boasted fact that we know how and do things better to-day. Put a pint of linseed oil and two ounces of black lead in a vessel and stir well until thoroughly mixed. Heat the nails red hot, two or three at a time, and drop them in the mixture. When cold, spread out the nails to dry and they will be covered with a coating of black varnish that will keep them from becoming wet.

FARMING AND GARDENING AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

The department of agriculture at Columbia University announces a series of practical courses in gardening and farming for the six week period July 7 to August 15. The several courses are field crops, soil management, advanced agronomy and

Mills, Staatsburg, N. Y., paid \$4,250 for Gamboe Royal Majesty, certainly a bargain price. The same buyer made several other purchases. B. H. Bull & Son, Brampton, Ont., paid \$3,150 for Darling Lassy, another bargain. Mrs. Edmond Butler, Mount Kisco, N. Y., paid \$1,550 for Pretty Sybil, a year-old heifer. On the whole the prices ruled considerably lower than the herd warranted. It was one of those auctions of good things that averaged lower than the same herd would bring at a sale held the very next day.

LAST DATES TO SOW VEGETABLE SEEDS.

In the latitude of New York the last dates are given below that it is safe to sow vegetable seeds to give them time to mature. Successive plantings may be made a few days apart until

Last Dates to Sow Vegetables—Farming and Gardening at Columbia University—The Two Cornborers, Troublesome Flea Beetles and Plant Diseases

body, is slightly smaller in wing expanse and is reddish brown, being much darker than the female. The forewing is crossed by two narrow dark brown lines enclosing a pale yellow streak and there are two small yellow spots near its center. The hind wings are grayish and crossed by a broad band of pale yellow.

The moths remain quiet during the day, hiding in patches of grassland or underneath the leaves of various plants. At night they fly from plant to plant, depositing their eggs in flat, irregular shaped masses on the under side of the leaf. They are not especially attracted to lights.

The feeding habits of some individuals of the European corn borer are quite peculiar and these should be taken into account in any discussion distinguishing these from any nearly related species. These feeding habits of the insect are discussed in full on pages 19 and 20 of the Farmers Bulletin 1044, and figures 4, 5 and 6 show characteristic damage wrought by them.

Those interested should send to the Division of Publications, Agricultural Department, Washington, D. C., for the bulletin.

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Chrysanthemums for outdoor bedding are becoming popular, and justly so, as they produce a profusion of blooms just at the time the autumn frosts have cut down other flowering plants in the garden.

Early frosts do not harm the hardy chrysanthemums and they frequently flower well into November in the gardens around New York city.

Planted as late as July, they will produce flowers in the autumn and with a good covering of litter during

ter sowing, but barely cover the seeds. Thin out in showery weather and transplant the plants that are removed. When the seedlings are of good size transplant six inches apart.

Gladioli bulbs that were left in the ground last autumn survived the winter in northern New Jersey and are now growing well.

Potted plants that have been neglected so the leaves droop and the soil has become dry and hard should have the pots immersed in water until the air bubbles cease to rise.

Members of the Cleveland and Shaker Lakes Garden clubs and the Woman's Land Army committee of Cleveland have raised \$1,000 to provide twenty scholarships for women this summer in gardening and poultry at \$50 each at the Ohio State University, Columbus.

United Verde Extension, an Arizona copper concern, offers a one-eighth acre garden patch to any employee. Ground will be ready for seeding, water furnished free and a professional agriculturist will be paid by the company to assist and advise the gardeners.

FLEA BEETLES.

The flea beetle is a small jet black beetle about one-sixteenth of an inch in length, and is usually the first insect to attack potato vines when they come up. The leaves of tomatoes, cucumbers, and several other garden plants are often eaten, as well as those of potatoes. Young plants are most affected, and it is therefore advisable to spray early to prevent damage.

The flea beetle was very abundant

tained by using a combination of arsenate of lead and bordeaux mixture. The arsenate of lead is a stomach poison, and if eaten by the beetles kills them, while the bordeaux mixture acts as a repellent. Care should be used to spray both sides of the leaves and cover as much of the surface as possible. This spraying will also protect potato plants from the common potato bug and other leaf eating insects, as well as help to prevent blight and fungus diseases.—G. M. Conning, Connecticut.

PLANT DISEASES.

The New Jersey State College of Agriculture warns gardeners to be on the lookout for two quite common plant diseases:

Damping off—Damping off is the most common cognomen for a fungus disease which attacks plants pretty generally. The fungus organisms attack the seedlings at the surface of the soil, causing them to wilt, fall and die. Strangely enough, it is plants growing on rich soil which are affected. This is due to the fact that the organisms which cause the rot live on manure and decaying vegetable matter of all kinds.

Here are a few precautions to prevent this disease, which attacks almost every common vegetable:

Remove and destroy the diseased plants and the soil in which they are grown.

Avoid excess of water. Sterilize the soil by means of formaldehyde.

The application of hot sand to the area affected or watering it with weak Bordeaux mixture will often kill the disease organisms, but care must be taken with the latter that the plants are not killed.

Lettuce Drop or Rot—If the lower leaves of lettuce look as if they had been scalded with hot water, drooping and falling to the ground, the plant is probably infected with lettuce drop or rot. As it moves rapidly not only to the rest of the infected plant but also to other plants in the bed, it should be checked at once. Pull and burn or bury the plants as soon as the disease is detected. If growing lettuce on a large scale to avoid future trouble in this direction practice crop rotation and sterilize the soil with celery, cucumber, radish and other plants are also subject to this disease.

Two serious wheat diseases have been discovered in Illinois. One seems to be identical with "take-all," which has caused serious loss to wheat growers of Australia, and of wheat, oats, barley, rye, rice and wild grasses of Europe.

The second is flag smut of wheat, which is serious in Australia and is known in India and Japan.

If palms, aspidistras and other smooth leaved foliage plants are washed frequently, using a soft cloth and warm water, they will not be troubled with scale insects.

Ninety-four species of plant lice are recognized as affecting various plants in New Jersey, according to Circular 107, Vegetable Plant Lice, Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.

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3-YEAR ASPARAGUS ROOTS.

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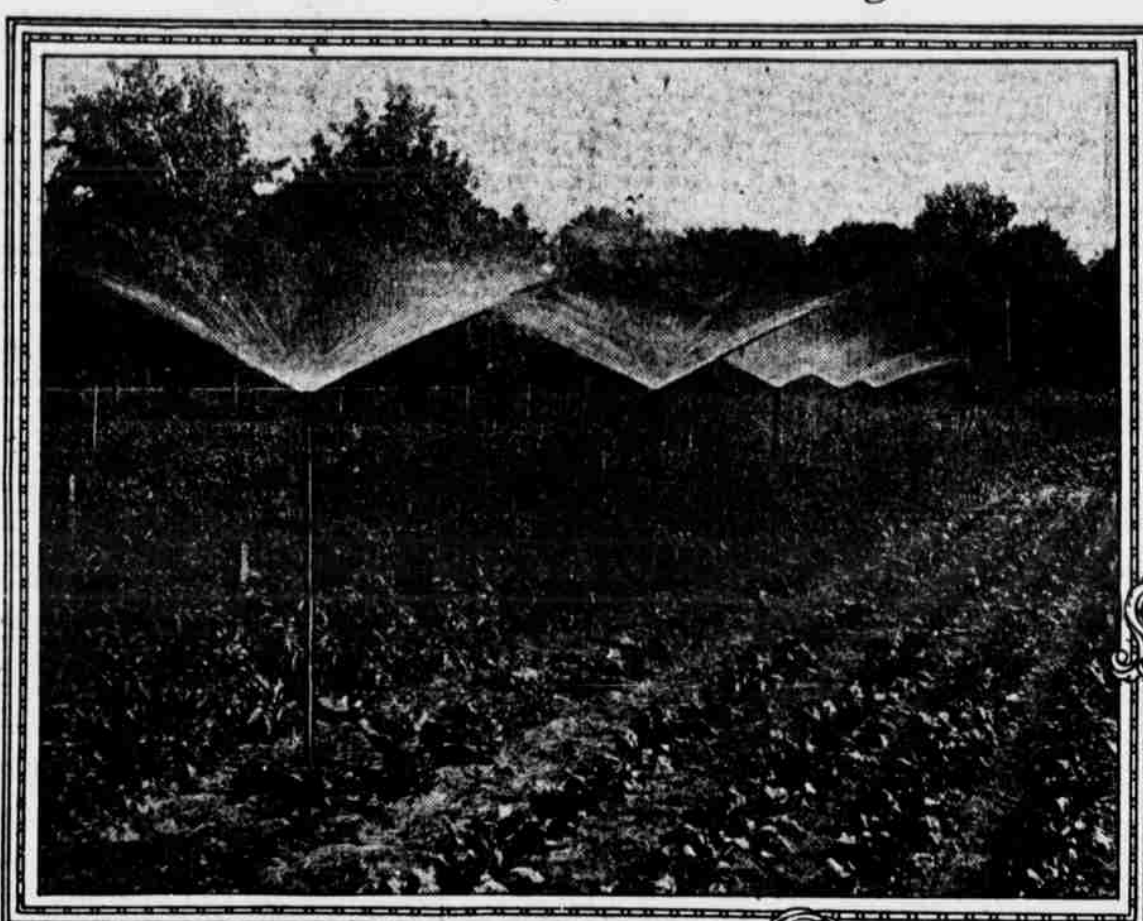
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Automatic Lawn and Garden Irrigation



Overhead Irrigation System for Vegetable Gardens.

To produce perfect specimens of plants, either flowers or vegetables, in the Eastern part of the United States irrigation is necessary. Water may be supplied by means of a watering can or a hose by a system of sprayers permanently located so the whole surface of the garden will be watered when the water is turned on. The Cornell system includes underground sprayers for lawns over which

a lawn mower will pass safely, and this same plan is used for formal gardens. There are low down sprinklers, raised to the tops of the plants in flower beds and an overhead system for vegetable gardens and shrubs.

This system is a great time and labor saver, as the water has only to be turned on and automatically the garden or lawn is irrigated. After a time the water is turned off and the work is done.

plies and spreads is quite remarkable. It is one of the most troublesome weeds of my garden. We have fought it for years, but it is still there. There are many conservatory species from the tropics with attractive foliage, including zebra, green foliage striped with white, multicolor, silvery white, green and claret.

At a recent exhibition of the Horticultural Society of New York W. A. Manda of South Orange, N. J., exhibited more than one hundred varieties of tradescantia.

The plants spread by branching and rooting freely, and cuttings placed in water root quickly and surely. Tradescantia is an excellent plant for window boxes, hanging baskets and vases, doing equally well in sun or shade.

SALSIFY OR VEGETABLE OYSTERS.

The milky juice of the vegetable oyster is said to contain valuable medicinal qualities, ranking above the dandelion root. Salsify, or vegetable oyster, requires the same culture as the parsnip. Straight, smooth roots are to be desired. The roots are hardy and like parsnips may be left in the ground over winter.

The flower stalks of salsify may be prepared like asparagus, but it is the root that is generally used.

The roots should be handled with care so they will not become bruised and permit the milky juice to be wasted.

In cooking, boil the roots without scraping, removing the skins afterward.

PRESERVING IRON NAILS.

Iron nails in old buildings a hundred years old or more are likely to be found perfectly solid and sound, but not so with the nails of to-day, which

BELLEVIEW FARMS JERSEY SALE.

Auctions are peculiar institutions. I attend them myself and often purchase desired treasures at prices that make me feel as though the articles had been stolen. At other sales several times the value of the article will be paid, just why nobody can tell, except that it is what happens at auctions.

At the Bellevue Farms sale, Southington, Conn., on June 2, forty-four animals brought \$32,115, going to purchasers in ten different States and Canada.

There were present buyers from as far West as Salt Lake City, Utah, from Texas, Miss., and other distant points.

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Sulco-V-B proved to be one of the very best things I have ever used on trees and shrubs for all insects and fungus pests. It only needs to be known to become popular. Alexander MacLellan, Horticulturist, Newport, R. I.

Send for descriptive booklet.

Address COOK & SWAN CO., Inc., Sulco-V-B, Dept. S., 148 Front Street, New York, U. S. A. Established 1862.

the dates in the table below. The number of days required for maturing is also given:

	Days
Lima beans..... June 25..... 70	
Snap beans..... July 25..... 70	
Beans..... Aug. 5..... 70	
Early cabbage..... July 15..... 50	
Early carrots..... July 15..... 50	
Early cauliflower..... July 15..... 50	
Celery..... July 25..... 50	
Chinese cabbage..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Collards..... July 15..... 50	
Corn salad..... Aug. 10..... 50	
Sweet corn..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Cucumbers..... July 15..... 50	
Pickling cucumbers..... Aug. 1..... 50	
Radish..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Kale..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Lettuce..... Aug. 20..... 50	
Parsley..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Early peas..... July 25..... 50	
Radish, spring..... Sept. 10..... 50	
Radish, summer..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Radish, winter..... Aug. 15..... 50	
Rutabaga..... July 15..... 50	
Spinach..... Sept. 1..... 50	
Turnips..... Aug. 15..... 50	

Perennial onion sets can be set out any time they are ripe and ready for picking for seed; they can be planted as late as the ground can be worked. Properly planted and cared for, a bed of perennial onions will thrive for several years. The plants pulled for food should be replaced with bulbs produced on the tops of the stems of the plants left in the bed.

CORN BORERS.

Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the bureau of entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, was asked to explain the difference between the larger corn stalk borer and the European corn borer. His reply follows:

"The adult or moth of the larger corn stalk borer varies from almost white to smoky yellow, and the forewings, which spread to about one and a fourth inches, are darker than the hind wings and bear faint markings. When at rest the wings are held close to the body, forming an acute triangle. The male moth usually is somewhat darker than the female and always occasionally appear at lights, but during the day remain hidden in the 'throat' of the corn plant beneath the leaves or in some other sheltered place.

"Referring to the European corn borer: The female moth has a robust body, with a wing expanse of a little more than an inch, and is pale yellow. The outer third of forewing is crossed by two narrow lines darker than the rest of the wing, while the hind wings are lighter yellow.

"The male moth has a long, slender

the winter will start up again the following spring. I have several varieties in my garden that were bought as tender varieties, but they were left in the ground without protection and come up after year after year.

Henry A. Drier offers a collection of twenty-five named hardy varieties of various colors, yellow, bronze, pink, red, white, &c. Edward Wallis, Berlin, N. J., also makes a specialty of hardy mixed unnamed chrysanthemums of good varieties.

LIME.

The elements of lime, calcium and magnesium are plant food. The grain and fruit crops use these as food in very small quantities, but the legumes and root crops use them in relatively large quantities.

Frequent and small applications are better than occasional large applications. Clay soils need larger applications than sandy soils.

Extension bulletin No. 5, New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, is well worth reading by all gardeners and farmers. It is free.

In using insecticides be careful not to make the mixture stronger than recommended in the directions on the package. To do so will likely result in burning the foliage on the plants.

Ants in lawns and gardens will promptly disappear if sprayed with Sulco-V-B. Use one part Sulco-V-B to twenty parts of water.

If spraying the top of the ant hill is not sufficient, pour enough of the mixture on the hill to thoroughly wet the soil about it.

There is a great opportunity for farmers to market eggs, poultry, butter, fruit and vegetables through the classified advertising columns of the newspapers of the nearest large city. This plan often gives better satisfaction than the usual method. A number of these advertisements appear under the classification of "farm produce" every Sunday in this department.

Biennials, such as Canterbury bells, sweet rocket, lunaria and Sweet William should be sown at once for flowering next season.

Make the seed bed in a lightly shaded situation and sow in rows six inches apart. Make the soil firm af-

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